



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Sequoia National Forest
Inyo National Forest



Interagency News Release / Fire Update

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Firefighters Take Action to Hold Fire at Paradise Creek

Through Saturday and Sunday, operations on the 797-acre Paradise 2 Fire in Sequoia National Park will expand to include “burnouts” along designated firelines (perimeters). This increased activity will allow firefighters a strong opportunity to hold the fire at Paradise Creek and keep it off of the slopes of Castle Rock.

Since the discovery of the fire on September 26, firefighters have been working towards containment. The projected weather and fire behavior for this weekend offer a chance to contain the fire earlier than expected.

The burnouts will not only take fuel away from the main fire along the perimeter, but will also blacken unburned areas inside the perimeter. This will prevent the fire from establishing enough energy to threaten firelines. A second Hot Shot crew will be in the field today, bringing the total number of firefighters working directly on the fire to about seventy-five. Firefighter safety remains the highest priority.

Because firefighters will be using fire to stop fire, smoke will be more prevalent today and tomorrow. The goal of the operation is to contain the fire quickly which should lead to a diminishing amount of smoke and shorten the number of days the fire will be active. As members of the local community, firefighters in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks recognize the importance of reducing the amount of smoke in the area.

Fire Updates

In addition to the suppression efforts on the Paradise 2 Fire, there are several fires in the area designated as “Fire Use”. This means the fires are allowed to play their natural role in the environment as long as the fire spread and behavior meet predetermined conditions. The following is a summary of the noteworthy fire activity:

- **West Kern Fire (Sequoia National Park, Sequoia and Inyo National Forests)** – The main activity of this wildland fire use project continues on the Inyo National Forest. Monitors are assessing fire weather and behavior in this area. Fire behavior is expected to be limited and significant spread is not likely. There will be occasional pockets of smoke as the fire smolders and creeps in the leaves and needles. Total estimated size is 7,690 acres of which 3,404 acres are within Sequoia National Park, 2,459 acres are on the Sequoia National Forest and 1,827 acres on the Inyo National Forest.

- **Giant Fire (Sequoia National Park)** – This fire is still smoldering in stumps and logs near Crescent Meadow. Several fire use monitors continue to watch over this wildland fire use project. The size of the Giant fire remains at 275 acres and is not expected to increase. Several trails remain closed for the safety of the public: the Huckleberry Trail from the junction of Alta Trail to Crescent Meadow, the Trail of the Sequoias between the Congress Loop and Log Meadow, and the section of trail between the Alta Trail and Crescent Meadow.
- **Williams Fire (Kings Canyon National Park)** – Fire activity in recent days has been minimal with intermittent smoke rising from smoldering vegetation. The fire was recently mapped at 2,455 acres and continues to slowly creep to the west. Area closures around the Williams Fire remain in effect.
- The remaining wildland fire use projects within the parks showed little or no activity.
- **Albanita-Hooker Fire (Sequoia National Forest)** – Located approximately 2.5 miles north of the Sherman Pass Road, this wildland fire use project is 2,100 acres. Sequoia National Forest fire managers continue to monitor this fire as it backs down to the south. Some fire spread is also occurring on the north side (towards Broder Meadows.). Fire monitors, one engine crew, and one handcrew are assigned to the fire. For the last several days, smoke from the Albanita-Hooker Fire has been moving north and east staying on the Kern Plateau.

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